Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority East (SLFPA–E)

2011 Strategic Plan
A flood risk management system that helps protect the lives and property of residents within the jurisdiction of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority–East from at least a 500-year flood event, which is defined as one with a 0.2% chance of being equaled or exceeded on an annual basis.
MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to ensure the physical, operational and financial integrity of the regional flood risk management system, and to work with appropriate local, regional, state and federal agencies and officials to plan, design, construct, operate and maintain projects that will reduce the probability and consequences of flooding in SLFPAE’s jurisdiction.
1. We strive for operational excellence by leveraging the institutional knowledge, technical expertise, professionalism, and dedication of our personnel.

2. We plan and manage flood protection as an integrated regional system rather than as a series of projects or individual, stand-alone levee districts. While we respect the history and uniqueness of each district, we believe it is their connectivity and shared history that knits neighboring districts into an effective regional system.

3. We recognize the contribution and dedication of each employee who, regardless of his or her job, plays a vital role in flood protection.
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

4. Our staff and board of commissioners must be transparent, honest, visible, responsive, responsible and accountable so that our actions over a sustained period of time will build trust with the public and the agencies with whom we work in the mission of building and managing a true regional system.

5. We value input from all sources at all levels.

6. We exercise fiscal responsibility through the continuous improvement of our business operations.
7. We operate and maintain existing levees, flood gates, floodwalls, armoring, and in the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District, pumping stations as well, leveraging the most advanced standards and methods that public finances permit.

8. We embrace coastal restoration and preservation, as well as the proper mitigation of flood protection-related construction, as critical components of flood risk reduction.
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

9. We strive to better communicate to the public the residual risks that remain in any system, no matter how much protection it offers. That includes informing the public that flood risk reduction is a shared responsibility covering a range of activities as diverse as individuals raising their homes, improvements to local drainage systems, and local governments making flood risk reduction a consideration in all land use decisions.

10. We believe that a “multiple lines of defense” strategy should be adopted to reduce flood risks. We further believe that the system must be resilient to overtopping, using splash guards, armoring, and other engineered methods in order to prevent catastrophic levee and floodwall failures.
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

I. Governance and Organizational Design

A. Continue developing governance guidelines for the Board of Commissioners, the Regional Director, Authority staff, and the Executive Directors.

B. Continue developing clear roles and responsibilities for the Board of Commissioners, the Regional Director, Authority staff and Levee Districts.
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

II. Financial and Accounting

A. Continue implementing consistent accounting systems, processes, and reporting requirements for the Authority and Levee Districts

B. Continue requesting an additional and recurring $250,000 yearly from the state to fund essential Authority personnel

C. Continue applying for new state and federal grants while effectively managing existing grants

D. Develop a five-year capital budget and preventative maintenance plan for equipment and facilities by 2013
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

II. Financial and Accounting

E. Create a comprehensive financial plan for the Authority by the end of 2014, which includes estimates of:

- Future operation and maintenance expenses, including the increased costs associated with the new features of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS)
- Local cost share requirements for the HSDRRS
- Cost of future levee/floodwall lifts necessary to maintain the authorized level of protection of the HSDRRS
- Cost of levee/floodwall system projects that provide increased levels of protection
- Cost of coastal restoration projects that either maintain or increase levels of flood protection
- Long-term liabilities
- Existing revenue sources
- Potential sources of additional revenue
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

III. Operations and Staffing

A. Continue developing and implementing a consistent and improved levee inspection program in coordination with the state Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration

B. Continue trying to identify money to construct safe and secure shelters for Lake Borgne Basin Levee District’s essential personnel.
III. Operations and Staffing

C. Continue developing the new Levee Information Management System (LIMS) using Geographic Information System technology, to include modules for:

- Permitting (by the end of 2012)
- Inspection (by the end of 2013)
- Operations and Maintenance (by the end of 2014)
- Additional modules as needed
III. Operations and Staffing


E. Fill key operational vacancies across Levee Districts by the end of 2011.
III. Operations and Staffing

F. Identify and project personnel needs through 2015 at the Authority and Levee District level by the end of 2011, to include:
   - appropriate staffing levels that incorporate projected attrition and current vacancies
   - succession planning
   - retention efforts
   - pay and benefits

G. Conduct an authority-wide training needs assessment by the end of 2011
III. Operations and Staffing

H. Complete a Safe House and Emergency Operations Center for the Orleans Levee District by the end of 2011.

I. Complete the planning, design and construction of a safe house as part of the new East Jefferson Levee District complex by June, 2013.

J. Develop by 2015 a 10-year strategic implementation plan for a higher level of flood protection to include structures, levees, and coastal restoration, along with a timeline for accomplishing same.
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

IV. Communications/Legislative

A. Continue creating effective partnerships and relationships with local, state, and federal entities, as well as business, civic and community leaders, in order to position SLFPA-E as the leader in regional flood protection.

B. Develop an effective communications plan, with accountabilities, to better communicate to the public through local and national media outlets by the end of 2011.

C. Develop a consistent, effective legislative plan and strategy, including specific roles for the Board of Commissioners, Regional Director and Executive Directors, to better communicate with Congressional and State legislative delegations, and local elected officials, by March 2012.